

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

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EA/VN: MR. WENZEL

S/S: MR. BARNES

AF - JDAVISON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT ALGIERS

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AG

SUBJECT: EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH ALGERIA ON VIETNAM

1. ON MARCH 2, CHIEF OF ALGERIAN INTERESTS SECTION IN
WASHINGTON DELIVERED TO THE DEPT A LETTER FROM ALGERIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTEFLIKA TO THE SECRETARY. (A COPY OF
THIS LETTER WAS ALSO DELIVERED TO EMBASSY PARIS BY ALGERIAN
EMBASSY THERE.) DEPT TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF THIS LETTER
FOLLOWS:

QUOTE EXCELLENCY: ALGERIA, AS DID THE ENTIRE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMUNITY, GREETED WITH RELIEF THE SIGNING
ONE MONTH AGO OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ENDING THE WAR AND
RESTORING PEACE IN VIET-NAM. AS THE INTERNATIONAL CONFER-
ENCE ON VIET-NAM OPENS, WE ARE HAPPY TO SEE THIS IMPORTANT
STAGE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT. MEANWHILE,
THE VIENTIANE AGREEMENTS HAVE MOST ASSUREDLY PROVIDED
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FURTHER REASON TO HOPE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PEACE THROUGH-OUT THE INDOCHINESE PENINSULA.

QUOTE HOWEVER, IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT ALL THE PARTIES TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT, ESPECIALLY THE SAIGON AUTHORITIES, DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE SEEN FIT TO ADHERE UNEQUIVOCALLY TO THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPECT FOR THE AGREEMENT AND APPLICATION OF ITS PROVISIONS. THUS, THE ENTIRE WORLD IS WATCHING YOUR CONFERENCE UNFOLD TODAY, CONVINCED THAT NO EFFORT WILL BE SPARED IN BRINGING THE GOOD WILL OF ALL TO BEAR UPON THE DILIGENT, FAITHFUL, AND FAIR APPLICATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT.

QUOTE ALGERIA, DEEPLY COMMITTED TO PEACE AND AWARE OF ALL THE SACRIFICES OF THE PEOPLE OF INDOCHINA, WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS CONFIDENCE IN THE MISSION THAT HAS BEEN EN-TRUSTED TO YOU.

QUOTE WE HOPE THAT IN DISCHARGING THE SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY THAT HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO YOU, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO BRING AN ELEMENT OF DETENTE, CONCORD, AND PEACE NOT ONLY TO THE PEOPLE OF INDOCHINA AND ASIA, BUT ALSO TO INTER-NATIONAL RELATIONS IN GENERAL.

QUOTE NATURALLY, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEARS CERTAIN SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES WITH RESPECT TO BOTH THE ORIGIN AND THE SETTLEMENT OF THE INDOCHINA CONFLICT. ALLOW ME TO EXPRESS THE HOPE OF SEEING YOUR GOVERNMENT WORK UNRESERVEDLY FOR POLITICAL AND MILITARY DISENGAGEMENT AND THUS HELP HASTEN THE REALIZATION OF ALL THE OBJECTIVES DEFINED IN THE HISTORIC AGREEMENT OF JANUARY 27.

QUOTE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCE OF MY VERY HIGH CONSIDERATION. ALGIERS, FEBRUARY 28, 1973, SIGNED:
ABDELAZIZ BOUTEFLIKA. END QUOTE.

2. ON MARCH 9, THE SECRETARY SIGNED FOLLOWING REPLY TO BOUTEFLIKA:

QUOTE DEAR MR. MINISTER: YOUR LETTER ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET- NAM WAS DELIVERED TO ME ON MY RETURN FROM PARIS.
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QUOTE I AM SURE YOU SHARE OUR SATISFACTION WITH THE
SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE WHICH CULMINATED IN
THE SIGNING OF THE ACT BY THE TWELVE PARTIES. THIS CONFER-
ENCE AND THE ACT ARE IMPORTANT STEPS TOWARD INSURING
PEACE FOR ALL INDOCHINA. TO ACHIEVE THIS, OUR MUTUAL GOAL,
ALL OF THE PARTIES MUST BE WILLING TO WORK FOR IT. THE
UNITED STATES, FOR ITS PART, IS DEDICATED TO THAT TASK.
SINCERELY, WILLIAM P. ROGERS. UNQUOTE

3. THE SECRETARY'S REPLY HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO CHIEF
OF ALGERIAN INTERESTS SECTION IN WASHINGTON FOR FORWARDING
TO BOUTEFLIKA. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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